

House File 393 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 393
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 25)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act allowing an advanced registered nurse practitioner to
2 sign a death certificate.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 142C.8, subsection 10, Code 2011, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 10. The physician or advanced registered nurse practitioner
4 who attends the decedent at death and the physician or advanced
5 registered nurse practitioner who determines the time of
6 death shall not participate in the procedures for removing or
7 transplanting a part from the decedent.

8 Sec. 2. Section 144.26, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended
9 to read as follows:

10 1. a. A death certificate for each death which occurs
11 in this state shall be filed as directed by the state
12 registrar within three days after the death and prior to final
13 disposition, and shall be registered by the county registrar
14 if it has been completed and filed in accordance with this
15 chapter. A death certificate shall include the social security
16 number, if provided, of the deceased person. All information
17 including the certifying physician's or advanced registered
18 nurse practitioner's name shall be typewritten.

19 b. An advanced registered nurse practitioner authorized to
20 sign a death certificate shall be licensed in this state; shall
21 have been in charge of the deceased patient's care; and shall
22 have successfully completed a training course relating to the
23 preparation and completion of a death certificate which has
24 been approved by the department of public health by rule.

25 Sec. 3. Section 144.28, subsection 1, paragraphs b and e,
26 Code 2011, are amended to read as follows:

27 b. Unless there is a nonnatural cause of death, the medical
28 certification shall be completed and signed by the physician
29 or advanced registered nurse practitioner in charge of the
30 patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted
31 in death within seventy-two hours after receipt of the death
32 certificate from the funeral director or individual who
33 initially assumes custody of the body.

34 e. If upon inquiry into a death, the county or state medical
35 examiner determines that a preexisting natural disease or

1 condition was the likely cause of death and that the death does
2 not affect the public interest as described in section 331.802,
3 subsection 3, the medical examiner may elect to defer to the
4 physician or advanced registered nurse practitioner in charge
5 of the patient's preexisting condition the certification of the
6 cause of death.

7

EXPLANATION

8 This bill allows an advanced registered nurse practitioner
9 to sign a death certificate, unless there is a nonnatural cause
10 of death. The bill requires such an advanced registered nurse
11 practitioner to be licensed in Iowa, have been in charge of the
12 deceased patient's care, and have completed a special training
13 course regarding the completion of death certificates.